

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed May 28, 2004. Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 1 – 2 and 5 - 20 remain pending. In particular, Applicants have amended claims 1, 8, 15 and 19, and have canceled claims 3 and 4 without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicants have canceled claims 3 and 4 merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate the canceled subject matter to the public. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Office Action indicates that claims 1 - 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Oran*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As an initial matter, Applicants respectfully note that the Office Action has relied on the “Programs” hierarchically arranged item of the start menu of *Oran* for describing one function, and has used another hierarchically arranged item, i.e. the “Control Panel” button, for describing another function. However, as will be described in detail below, Applicants amended claims clearly patentably distinguish over *Oran*’s disclosure, because multiple functions are recited as being associated with the same hierarchically arranged item.

Turning now to the claims, claim 1 recites:

1. A method for controlling the presentation of a hierarchical arrangement of items in a window of a graphical user interface, at least one of the items having one or more related sub-items, the method comprising:

displaying the one or more of the related sub-items of one of the items in response to at least one of:

moving of a cursor over the one of the items and actuating an input button of a mouse input device as the cursor is located over the one of the items; and

actuating a virtual button associated with the one of the items; and

determining when the cursor is moved over the one of the items; and displaying a first preview window comprising the one or more related sub-items.

(Emphasis Added).

Applicants respectfully assert that *Oran* is legally deficient for the purpose of anticipating claim 1, because at least the features/limitations recited above in claim 1 are not taught or otherwise disclosed by *Oran*. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Since claims 2 and 5 - 7 incorporate all the features/limitations of claim 1, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims also are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 8, that claim recites:

8. A system for controlling the presentation of a hierarchical arrangement of items in a window of a graphical user interface, at least one of the items having one or more related sub-items, the system comprising:

logic configured to:

display the one or more of the related sub-items of one of the items in response to at least one of:

moving of a cursor over the one of the items and actuating an input button of a mouse input device as the cursor is located over the one of the items; and

actuating a virtual button associated with the one of the items; and

determine when a cursor is moved over one of the items; and displaying a first preview window comprising the one or more related sub-items;

a memory comprising an application supporting a graphical user interface and in which the logic is stored;

a display device configured to support the graphical user interface;

a cursor manipulation device configured to cooperate with the application and for manipulating the cursor with respect to the graphical user interface; and

a processing device configured to implement the logic and the application.
(Emphasis Added).

Applicants respectfully assert that *Oran* is legally deficient for the purpose of anticipating claim 8 because at least the features/limitations recited above in claim 8 are not taught or otherwise disclosed by *Oran*. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 8 is in condition for allowance. Since claims 9 - 14 incorporate all the features/limitations of claim 8, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims also are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 15, that claim recites:

15. A system for controlling the presentation of a hierarchical arrangement of items in a window of a graphical user interface, at least one of the items having one or more related sub-items, the system comprising:

means for determining when a cursor is moved over one of the items;
means for displaying the one or more of the related sub-items of one of the items in response to at least one of:

moving of a cursor over the one of the items and actuating an input button of a mouse input device as the cursor is located over the one of the items; and

actuating a virtual button associated with the one of the items; and

means for displaying a first preview window comprising the one or more related sub-items.

(Emphasis Added).

Applicants respectfully assert that *Oran* is legally deficient for the purpose of anticipating claim 15 because at least the features/limitations recited above in claim 15 are not taught or otherwise disclosed by *Oran*. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 15 is in condition for allowance. Since claims 16 - 18 incorporate all the features/limitations of claim 15, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims also are in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 19, that claim recites:

19. A computer program, which is embodied in a computer-readable medium, for controlling the presentation of a hierarchical arrangement of items in a window of a graphical user interface, at least one of the items having one or more related sub-items, the computer program:

logic configured to:

determine when a cursor is moved over one of the items;

display the one or more of the related sub-items of one of the items in response to at least one of:

moving of a cursor over the one of the items and actuating an input button of a mouse input device as the cursor is located over the one of the items; and

actuating a virtual button associated with the one of the items; and

display a first preview window comprising the one or more related sub-items.

(Emphasis Added).

Applicants respectfully assert that *Oran* is legally deficient for the purpose of anticipating claim 19 because at least the features/limitations recited above in claim 19 are not taught or otherwise disclosed by *Oran*. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 19 is in condition for allowance. Since claim 20 incorporates all the features/limitations of claim 19, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims also are in condition for allowance.

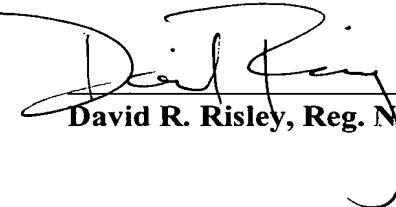
Cited Art Made of Record

The cited art made of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims 1 - 2 and 5 - 20 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Risley, Reg. No. 39,345

**THOMAS, KAYDEN,
HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, L.L.P.**
Suite 1750
100 Galleria Parkway N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30339
(770) 933-9500

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 7/13/04.

Stephanie Riley
Signature